

**DISK DRIVE HAVING A VCM PLATE WHICH INCLUDES AN INTEGRALLY  
FORMED ELONGATED PROTRUSION FOR SECURING A FLEX BRACKET TO  
THE DISK DRIVE BASE**

**ABSTRACT**

1   **[00026]**       A disk drive includes a disk drive base, a spindle motor attached to the disk drive  
2   base, a disk supported by the spindle motor, and a head stack assembly coupled to the disk drive  
3   base. The head stack assembly includes an actuator body, a coil portion cantilevered from the  
4   actuator body, an actuator arm cantilevered from the actuator body in an opposite direction from  
5   the actuator arm, a flex circuit cable having an electrical connector end, and a flex bracket for  
6   clamping the electrical connector end of the flex circuit cable to the disk drive base, the flex  
7   bracket having first and second ends being spaced-apart along a width of the disk drive. The  
8   disk drive further includes an upper voice coil motor plate and a lower voice coil motor plate, the  
9   voice coil motor plates secured to the disk drive base, one of the voice coil motor plates having  
10   an integrally formed elongated protrusion extending from the voice coil motor plate for  
11   contacting and securing the flex bracket to the disk drive base, the elongated protrusion  
12   extending from the first end to proximate the second end, wherein the flex bracket is secured to  
13   the disk drive base free of using any fastener.